[Translation]

Filling of SC/ST Posts

104. SHRI N.J. RATHWA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some posts for SC/ST are lying vacant in the departments/undertakings under the department of space at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof post-wise;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for filling up reserved posts;

(d) the time by which the vacant reserved posts are likely to be filled up; and

(e) the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Post-wise break-up of vacancies:

	SC	ST
Scientist/Engineer	-	01
Scientific/Technical Assistants	02	10
Tradesmen	15	05
Helpers	05	04
Stenographic Staff	02	05
Office Staff	05	02
Drivers	04	06
Total:	33	33

(c) Reserved vacancies have been notified to Special Employment Exchange. Further, advertisements for filling up the vacancies have been published in newspapers.

(d) Efforts are being made to fill up the posts at the earliest through Special Recruitment Drives launched by the Department in accordance with instructions of Govt.

(e) Non-availability of suitable candidates and some selected candidates not joining the posts are the main reasons for the posts remaining vacant.

[English]

Vacant Posts in Kendriya Bhandar

105. SHRI I.D. SWAMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether top level posts are lying vacant in Kendriya Bhandar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to fill up these posts in near future;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether complaints have been received against the General Manager Kendriya Bhandar; and

(g) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

(f) and (g) Some anonymous complaints were recently received against the General Manager, Kendriya Bhandar, which were looked into and dealt with in accordance with the procedure.

[Translation]

Waste Management in Antarctica

106. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken for waste-management by the foreign and Indian teams going to the Antarctica region for conducting studies;

(b) whether any study has been conducted to ascertain the impact of the environment of the Antarctica on the health of the members of the Indian team who have been going to the Antarctica region from time to time; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) A waste management plan for Antarctica has been prepared by India.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Studies relating to health of human subjects have been conducted since 1989. The outcome of the research indicates the Indian Antarctic members show a good physiological adaptation to the cold environment within seven days of exposure to the severe cold conditions of Antarctica. However, there are certain psycho-physiological alterations causing desynchronisation of the biological clock which is regulating the metabolic, hormonal, sleep-awake and psychological time sequence functioning of the body. These alterations are temporary, short lasting and reversible.